



# SNAILBEACH DISTRICT NEWS

July 2021  
Trucks and meadows

Free

## BACK TO THE FUTURE



'The Truck' – donated by the Mine's Trust and for many years at Stiperstones Primary School has found a new home. Carefully restored, painted and mounted, the Truck now sits beside the Village Hall. Mine's Trust and Hall members watched as Tim manouvered this local icon into place. A time capsule has been buried inside the plinth.

Some of its many items include:

*Scrolls from the primary school where children were asked to record their families and their hopes for the future.*

*Toddlers and preschool children's names and photos.*

*Local photos of John's shop, the daffodils in bloom and villages, people and families.*

*A shop receipt showing a weekly shop*

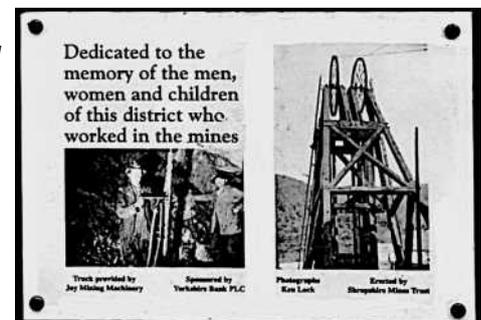
*An enamel pin and poem about the devils chair from the Mary Webb society*

*Local people's business cards*

*A face mask*

*A copy of the Snailbeach District News*

*A Photo of Will Corfield studying at home in the pandemic on a laptop .*



### **Inside this month**

Wildflower meadows are becoming more popular and increasingly important in the fight to protect many of our endangered species. You can find many facts about them inside.

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A thank you from  
George and Joan Evans

"Our thanks to everyone who called to visit our garden at Blackhole Snailbeach on Sunday 13th of June. What a glorious sunny day. A donation will be sent to St. Lukes Church from monies received."  
Thank you all

## FROM THE EDITOR

sammy@snailbeachdistrictnews.co.uk



*Tweedledum and Tweedledee  
Agreed to have a battle;  
For Tweedledum said Tweedledee  
Had spoiled his nice new rattle.*

*I recently joined the Marches Meadow Group after they held their AGM in the pub garden. My interest in wild flower meadows and the part they have to play in restoring bio-diversity has grown along side my success in establishing my own meadow. This month's newsletter is full of news and facts about what is going on in the local countryside and you may discover the reason for my Lewis Carrol quotation.*

I am sure Joan and George's letter echoes the experiences of so many who took part in the garden / car boot trail. It was great to have the village mixing again and I am sure you would all join me in thanking Claire and her team for organising it.

Elsewhere we have news from the 'Stiperstones Group of Churches', the return of the Shuttle Bus and the conquering feats of the White Stars.

### **Minsterley in the news**

Sadly a Covid outbreak has resulted in the school and the Co-op stores being closed.

At the time of going to press both the Stiperstones Inn and John's Shop remain open.

It seems that just as we were getting ready for a relaxation of the rules there is still a need for us all to follow the rules and maintain social distancing.

Take care



Back where they belong - After 10 years of hard work, dedication, a determination to win and some brilliant football Snailbeach White Stars were crowned Shrewsbury Sunday League Champions. Their rise from Division 5 hopefuls to Premiership dominators has been well deserved - congratulations to Jordan and all the team.



POS	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Snailbeach White Stars	14	14	0	0	66	42
2	Instones United	14	12	0	2	56	36
3	Beacon	14	9	1	4	11	28
4	Cruckton Rovers	14	6	1	7	-3	19

### Village Hall News June 2021

The village hall committee had a socially distanced meeting at the end of May, the first since last year due to lockdown. Finance, building and maintenance, play area and grounds, entertainment and a kitchen sub-committee have been established.



The hall is open for business but for the time being users will need to follow Covid restrictions. The hire charges are currently being maintained at pre-covid levels with the 2019/2020 pledge scheme being extended to the end of September. From November 2021 a new charging scheme will be introduced.

There are a number of initiatives to improve the hall and grounds as follows:

- A new ride on mower has been purchased to keep the play area tidy;
- The play area and grounds sub-committee has met with the Marches Meadow Group to advance proposals for the wildflower verges at the hall;
- The plinth for the mine truck has been commissioned and the truck will be relocated soon;
- Tenders are to be prepared for installation of new roof sheets on the wooden end of the hall and for construction of a mezzanine floor in the storeroom. Local contractors interested in tendering for the work should contact me in the first instance;
- The internal dividers in the hall have been removed to improve visibility for performances;
- New curtains and blackouts are planned; and
- A defibrillator is to be purchased with funding support from the parish council.

Some work parties are planned to paint the rendering and for work associated with the wildflower verges project. These will be notified on the Snailbeach/Stiperstones area community group facebook page and in SDN where possible. All are welcome to come along and lend support.

Finally, the section of car park to the rear of the hall will be closed on 3 & 4 July for an event. It will be closed off and locked on the evening 2 July.

Julian Bromhead Hall Chairman

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**MWA Garden Care**

Grounds and Garden Maintenance

English Marigold, *Calendula officinalis*

The English Marigold is a familiar sight with its pale green leaves and bright orange flowers, but it has a few more benefits than just looking pretty. Herbal healers have used the flowers for centuries as a remedy to a multitude of skin problems. For example, a dried Marigold flower can be rubbed onto an insect bite or sting to help reduce the pain and swelling.



# SHROPSHIRE HILLS SHUTTLE BUSES 2021

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September  
weekends & August Bank Holiday Monday

The Shropshire Hills Shuttle Buses will be back on the road this summer taking passengers onto the Long Mynd, and across to the Stiperstones, helping them to explore and enjoy this beautiful part of the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Change to the route – now turning at Stiperstones village

Regular Shuttle Bus passengers please note a change to the route. The Buses start at Carding Mill Valley and call at the Beaumont Road bus stop in Church Stretton, before heading up the Burway onto the Long Mynd. From Bridges, they travel to the Stiperstones National Nature Reserve, and onto the Bog Visitor Centre and Stiperstones village. Here, the buses will turn and head back along the same route to Bridges. At Bridges, the buses head back to Church Stretton and Carding Mill Valley via Duckley Nap and Jinly, the northern end of the Long Mynd.

Support

We hope these changes will make the Shuttle service financially sustainable for future years. The simple thing you can do to support the service is to use it, share your experiences and encourage your friends and family on board. You can also donate through our Shuttle Bus Supporter Scheme and help with passenger research and promotion.

Tickets

You purchase your ticket from the driver as you board the bus. We also offer a season ticket to buy in advance which gives you free travel on the Shuttle Buses. Concessionary bus passes are also accepted, and well-behaved dogs can travel with their owner at the driver's discretion.

Further information

The Shuttles will run from Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, every weekend & August Bank Holiday Monday to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September. The buses are managed by the Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership, supported by Shropshire Council and operated by local bus company Boulton's. For more Shuttle Bus information including timetable and route map, ticket prices, suggested walks and ways to support the Shuttle service please visit

[www.shropshirehillsshuttles.co.uk](http://www.shropshirehillsshuttles.co.uk)



# Event Equipment Hire Service



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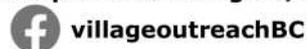
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Lady's Mantle, *Alchemilla vulgaris*

This member of the Rosaceae family grows abundantly in wild meadows, especially in northern parts of the UK. The astringent properties of this flower allow it to treat a range of conditions from muscle spasms to cuts and wounds. However as the name suggests, traditionally it was a 'lady's' herb and mainly used to relieve maladies associated with women.

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## Philip Dunne MP's latest Letter from Westminster

### Proposed Boundary changes



Last month, the Boundary Commission released their proposals for changes to the borders of the parliamentary constituencies.

Boundary Reviews happen routinely to address demographic changes over time, to ensure that constituency sizes are broadly equal. The last review was based on the number of electors at the 2000 General Election. But clearly, over twenty years on, as the population of the country has grown and areas have become more or less densely populated, this can lead to big discrepancies in the number of electors in each constituency.

To show how diverse this can be, at the 2019 General Election the Bristol West constituency had 99,253 electors, whereas our neighbour Montgomeryshire had only 48,997. Both return one MP – so clearly, not all votes carry the same weight in electing their MP. So this latest review from the Boundary Commission is long coming, and necessary.

The initial proposals involve some change to the Ludlow Constituency – not least a proposed name change, to ‘Ludlow and Bridgnorth’. The Shropshire Council wards of Burnell and Severn Valley – currently part of the Shrewsbury & Atcham constituency – would be included in the new Ludlow and Bridgnorth constituency. This would increase its geographic area significantly – by over 100 square miles, to some 700 square miles, which would make it the 5th largest constituency in England by area. It would also increase the number of electors by 7,500, over 10% on current levels, to some 77,000 electors.

This is however markedly less change than the previous iteration of the proposals from the Boundary Commission, which would have split the Ludlow Constituency in three, part of which would have created a new seat of Ludlow and Leominster in Herefordshire.

The current proposals keep five constituencies in Shropshire and Telford, and do not cross other county boundaries. The rest of Shropshire sees some limited movement of Shropshire Council wards, to ensure all constituencies have between 75,000 and 77,000 electors, with the exception of Telford, which would initially have 70,000, providing some room for this high growth town to increase its electors in years to come.

Across the West Midlands, there are no changes to the number of constituencies in Herefordshire, Shropshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Coventry, and Birmingham and Solihull. Staffordshire and the Black Country reduces from 25 constituencies to 23. So the West Midlands reduces overall from 57 constituencies to 55.

I stress these are just initial proposals. The Boundary Commission will report with their final recommendations by 1st July 2023, but there will be revisions off the back of feedback from MPs and the public. The public can have their say now through the current consultation, which finishes on 2nd August.

I shall be studying the detail closely, and I would also welcome feedback from constituents on the proposals, in particular the proposed change of name. You can access my survey on my website [www.tellphilip.com](http://www.tellphilip.com) to let me know your views.

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### Stinging Nettle- *Urtica dioica*

Put off by their nasty sting, most people overlook the health benefits of the Nettle, despite the fact it has less side effects than prescribed medications. Historically, the aerial parts of the plant were used as natural anti-histamine to combat allergies. However, the nettle has been increasingly studied and potential new uses include treating Alzheimer's disease.



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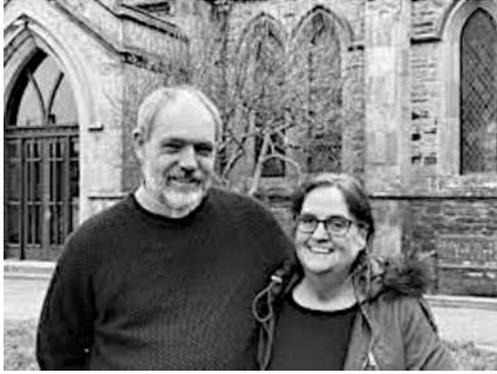
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## STIPERSTONES CHURCHES

We began putting together pre-recorded services in March and these continue to be available. The services can be found at our You Tube Channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPAXcTkynVL-OWds0pn4adg>

We are planning to continue to upload a pre-recorded service each week during the summer. If you do not have access to the Internet we are able to provide a DVD copy of any of the services. To find out more please contact me at the email address below.

We have also put together two recordings of actual services - the 23rd May service from St George's Pontesbury and the 6th June service from Holy Trinity Minsterley. We are hoping to continue to record a service each month and perhaps even move towards live streaming. These services involve several cameras and we are always looking for volunteers to operate a camera.

I have also started to put together a simple website for the Stiperstones Group of Churches—the early version is at [www.stiperstoneschurches.org.uk](http://www.stiperstoneschurches.org.uk) and you can find a link here to the recorded services.

As part of this I intend to develop part of the site about each of the churches in the group and shall be adding material to the group site and also to the Church of England site at "A Church near you".

If you have any images of events at any of the churches or memories that you would like added to the site please send them to me at [media.pontstip@gmail.com](mailto:media.pontstip@gmail.com)

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## Young people setting the environmental agenda in the Shropshire Hills Our young people are the future of the Shropshire Hills landscape.

Youth Voice for Nature is a new forum which is being set up to enable young people, aged 17-21, to come together to voice ideas and raise concerns over the environmental and climate challenges facing us in the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

The project is promoting greater collaboration, representation and involvement of young people in the care of, and governance of, the Shropshire Hills AONB.

An online launch is planned for Monday 5th July, 7.30pm – a chance for young people to hear more about Youth Voice for Nature, what's involved, and to share their thoughts and ideas to help shape this new project.

Over the course of the next two years, young people will be invited to take part in a series of sessions, led by a facilitator, with the aim of setting an agenda for our local environment through the work of the Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership.

This is a great opportunity for young people to connect with, and take action to conserve the Shropshire

Hills landscape, through campaigns and project work – it is for the young people involved to decide on the direction and focus. We'll be exploring local environmental issues and their priorities will feed into the AONB Partnership governance and Management Plan.

It's also a valuable experience being part of a working group, planning campaigns, meeting like-minded people and developing new skills – it's great for CVs and future employment opportunities.

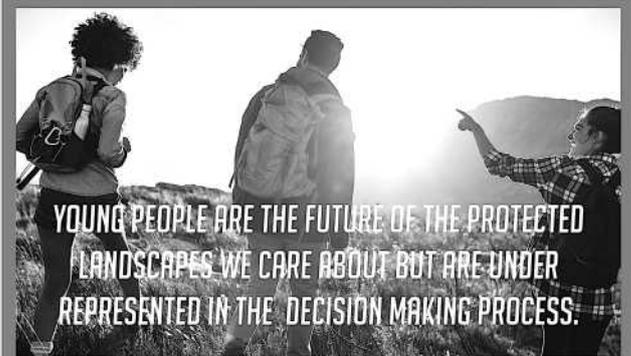
Youth Voice for Nature is supported by the National Heritage Lottery Fund.

Young people are invited to express their interest and register on Youth Voice for Nature via the project webpage <https://www.shropshirehillsaonb.co.uk/our-work/projects/youth-voice-for-nature> and/or by email: [shrophillsyouthvoice@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:shrophillsyouthvoice@shropshire.gov.uk)

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

INFLUENCING CHANGE



*Youth Voice for Nature*  
in the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

*Join us online  
Monday 5th July  
7.30pm*

PLEASE REGISTER FOR  
FURTHER DETAILS



*Youth Voice for Nature* is an environmental forum for local people aged 17-21. The project promotes greater collaboration, representation and involvement of young people in the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

### *What's involved?*

Collaborating with the AONB Partnership to explore local environmental issues.  
Connecting with, and understanding the special landscape of the Shropshire Hills.  
Setting young people's agenda for the environment.

### *Get involved!*

To register your interest, search "Shropshire Hills Youth Voice for Nature" or for more information email: [shrophillsyouthvoice@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:shrophillsyouthvoice@shropshire.gov.uk)



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### Mallow *Malva sylvestris*



The many species of mallow (scientific name malva), can be found widely across the UK, and are often considered weeds. When foraging, look out for the geranium-like leaves and pinkish flowers along hedgerows. When used in cooking, the leaves have a slightly glutinous texture due to the resin inside them, meaning they are mainly used not for their flavour but as a thickening agent. The flowers make an attractive addition to salads.



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## Notes from the hill

We had a good turnout for the bird walk in June, the first public event that we have been able to hold since the first lockdown. Although the weather didn't look too promising to start with, it turned out to be perfect conditions, little wind and not too hot. We usually hold our bird walk in May but with this later date we were able to pick up a few late migrants such as tree pipit and pied flycatcher and a respectable total of 30 species were seen or heard. Interestingly the only bird of prey seen was a single red kite, which was a shame because hobbies can be seen feeding over the hill regularly at the moment.

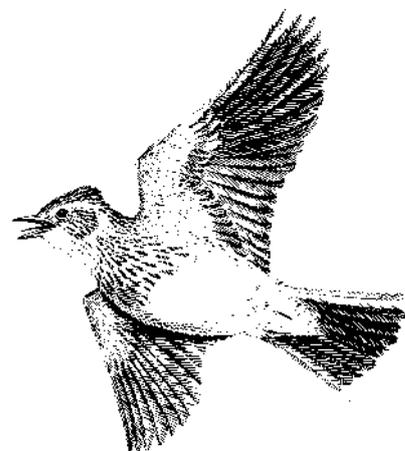


Tree pipits along with meadow pipits and skylarks fall into the category often referred to as little brown jobs or LBJ's. However, as with many birds their identification is a mixture of habitat and behaviour, as well as looks and sound. In the tree pipits' case, they are usually found in a treed landscape, as they carry out their song display to and from trees. This display involves singing while parachuting back down to their song tree. The meadow pipit also has a parachuting display song but tends to nest in open treeless landscapes. The skylark likes even more open areas and sings mostly whilst flying upwards in a continuous bout of song and never seems to take a breath. If seen in close up, the skylark is larger and has a crest, while the pipits are small with the meadow pipit being less well marked and having a thinner bill than the tree pipit.

After the cold start to the year, which held everything back and turned all the gorse brown we are now seeing a sudden growth in vegetation. The bracken is shooting up and we will be starting our annual cutting and spraying programme soon. If there are any keen scythers out there who would like to lend a hand, they should let me know.

I have seen the best show of buttercups that I have ever seen this year, in some of the fields in the area, and it has been a good year for the yellow mountain pansies on the acid grassland on the hill. I have also been pleased to see all the verges flowering well and that they are being cut later than in the past which should allow some of the plants to seed. All helped by the Restoring Shropshire Verges Project.

The Hay meadow Festival will hopefully be running this year on the 24th July and for a change is being hosted by the Discovery Centre in Craven Arms. The festival will have the usual hay and scything related activities, but with a more family friendly atmosphere and music running on into the early evening. We also have a good line up for the eco-talk tent, including a yoga session, storytelling and a gardening for wildlife talk. More information and early bird tickets can be found on the Discovery Centre website.



If, following the festival, you are inspired to take up the scythe and throw away that noisy strimmer, I will be running a scything course on Saturday the 7th August. For more details contact me on 01743 792294 or [Stiperstones.events@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:Stiperstones.events@naturalengland.org.uk).

from Simon Cooter and the Natural England staff at Rigmoroak.



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The Marches Meadow Group (MMG) was set up in 2015 by local residents with an interest in the management and conservation of wildflower rich hay meadows. Nationally 97% of species rich meadows were lost between 1930 and 1980 and, although some of the surviving meadows are now protected, losses have continued.

Fortunately southwest Shropshire and neighbouring areas of Powys still have a sprinkling of these meadows, and MMG exists to support their owners.

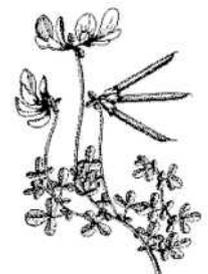
Using Heritage Lottery Fund and People's Postcode Lottery awards, MMG has acquired a range of hay-making machinery (tractors, trailer, mowers, tedders, balers etc.) for making hay for MMG members. During the hay-making season the equipment is operated by a team of local contractors. Not all members make use of this service – some can make hay themselves, others use their own contractors or local farmers, and many members have no meadow of their own but support the work of MMG.



MMG actively supports landowners who would like to increase the species richness of their grasslands, which can include lawns and public spaces. Enhancement can be achieved using seed or green hay from existing wildflower rich meadows. Green hay is cut when the meadow plant seeds are ripe but is immediately transported to, and spread on, the site to be enhanced. As the hay dries the seeds drop out and, over time, germinate to establish new plants. MMG owns a seed harvesting machine that can be used to collect seed from existing wildflower meadows for enhancement projects.

MMG organises visits, training, talks and workshops and is involved in the local Hay Meadow Festival. MMG offers opportunities for physical activities such as scything and is also supportive of management of roadside verges to promote their value for wild flowers.

Our membership has grown steadily throughout the lockdown, despite having to curtail some of our activities and now stands at over 100. There is an ever increasing recognition of the value of meadows as a haven for wildlife, with programmes like Country File, Springwatch etc regularly featuring their importance. We are spreading, with membership well outside the Stiperstones area, with new hubs of activity around Church Stretton and beyond.



This year MMG will be attending and displaying at the Hay Meadow Festival, which will be held in the Discovery Centre's meadow, Craven Arms on Saturday 24th July. A real opportunity to see what we do and meet the many wildlife groups operating within the County. We look forward to meeting you.

National Meadows day is on Saturday July 3rd when MMG are planning a members visit to a diverse and species rich meadow within the area.

Join the Group soon and get your copy of our specially designed Hay Making Poster, produced by one of our members, with support from the People's Postcode Lottery Fund.

Regards David Poynton

**[www.marchesmeadowgroup.com](http://www.marchesmeadowgroup.com)  
or contact the secretary  
Richard Small (01743 791476,  
[richard.w.small@gmail.com](mailto:richard.w.small@gmail.com)).**

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### Chickweed *Stellaria media*

Unless you know exactly what you're looking for, chickweed can be hard to spot, but it actually grows in abundance throughout summer in the UK. The understated plant can be found in both gardens and wasteland, and is identifiable by its small white flowers, with petals that have the look of being split in half. The crisp leaves and delicate flowers go well in salads, although the plant is also known for its medicinal purposes, and is very high in nutritional value.



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### Patricia Evans

Patricia has always had a passion for painting and a love of nature, which is reflected in her choice of subjects. She paints in Watercolour and Pastel and is particularly inspired to paint the atmospheric moods of the landscape.

### Phil Petford

Philip has worked as an artist for over 25 years. He works in acrylic and oils mainly but also watercolours from time to time. His love of wildlife and countryside scenes is reflected in his work for these are the scenes which interest him most.

### Roy Evans

Roy produces pots that have bold design and strong forms, with earthy colours. In contrast, he likes working in porcelain, producing fine delicate pieces with subtle colours and shades, but still with a functional purpose.

### Noel Evans

Noel has always had a connection with and has been inspired by the diversity of the wonderful Shropshire landscape. Noel also undertakes Publishing and Giclee printing work for other artists, which comes complete with a professional and friendly service.

# The Stiperstones Inn

## Christmas in July

*Last month we said that we were hoping to have some Christmas In July activities, we are hoping that these will still be able to go ahead. Including a Christmas Bingo & Quiz on the 22nd, an outdoor Carol Concert on the 24th July and of course a Dash n' Dawdle on Monday 26th July.*

*Due to Covid regulations for sporting events however, a traditional style boxing day run is just not going to be possible, Instead we will be asking participants to stagger their starts throughout the evening and to record their own times using Strava, Mapmyrun, Garmin, or whichever fitness tracker you use (you can even use an old fashioned stopwatch!). We will find someway to display the best times as they come in, but as always its the taking part that counts (honest!). There will be no charge for taking part, but we will be collecting donations for the Severn Hospice.*

*I recently noticed that the 50 best times for the Perkin's Beach hill climb on Strava have all been set on the 26th December over the last 10 years. It will be interesting to see whether the 26th July will bring in some even better times! (Though how anyone can climb to the top of that hill in under 10 minutes just amazes me)*

*Of course the Boxing Day run has always been about much much more than fast times, and whilst a wee dram at the top won't be quite the same without an icy wind cutting you to the bone, hopefully we will have a few spectators at the top cheering on the gallant dashers and the persistent dawdlers.*

*Lara*



HOGSTOW MEADOW

Down at Hogstow Patrick has cultivated a wild flower meadow for many years. Walking through it I was inspired to try and convert our scrubby horse field into a thing of beauty. Patrick gave me some rattle seeds which he assured me were essential for a successful meadow. I sowed but did not reap but no rattle came. I fenced off part of the field to keep the horses off, bought myself a motorised scythe and invested in an expensive wildflower seed mix. Last summer I was treated to a brilliant display of poppies but little else. This year I have ragged robin, lady smock, trefoils, ox eye daisies and some rattle!



YELLOW RATTLE

So if you want to start on what can be a very satisfying excursion into maintaining bio-diversity, here are some tips.

Known as ‘the meadow maker’ or ‘nature’s lawnmower’, yellow rattle is the single most important plant you need to establish when creating a wildflower meadow.

Without it, vigorous grasses grow unchecked and smother the flowers you want to encourage.

#### Life cycle

Yellow rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*) is an annual, completing its life cycle in one year. In early spring the seeds germinate and grow quickly. As their roots develop underground they seek out the roots of plants growing nearby, especially grasses. Once contact is made the yellow rattle draws water and nutrients from them, suppressing the growth of grasses by as much as 60%. In the resulting space, other flowers have room to grow.

The flowers of yellow rattle are pollinated by large bees (especially bumblebees). The plants develop large, inflated seed pods, when these ripen and dry, the seed inside rattles around. In former times, farmers used this sound as their cue to cut the hay.

#### How to: sow the seed

- Cut your grass as short as you can between July and September and remove the hay or clippings. Then remove the thatch (the layer of dead grass and moss that builds up on the soil surface) to expose some bare soil, using a rake or harrow. This ‘scarification’ is really important; the seed must be able to reach the soil surface. Aim for at least 50% bare soil, preferably more.

- Sow by hand straight away, scattering the seeds on the soil surface. This must be done by November as the seeds need about 4 months of temperatures dipping below 5°C in order to germinate in spring. Seed sown after Christmas germinates poorly.

- If you're sowing an entirely new meadow in an area of specially prepared bare soil, sow the yellow rattle along with all the other seeds in the autumn.

How to: keep yellow rattle going

- Seedlings will begin to appear in spring, from late March through to May. Don't be worried if only a few plants germinate in the first year. They'll grow and shed their own seed and numbers should increase rapidly.

- From now on you don't need to scarify the soil each year, just cut the meadow really hard once the seed has been shed and remove the hay or clippings. This can be any time from late July or preferably into August or early September, allowing late-blooming plants to provide food for pollinators and shed their seed.

- Aim to get the grass sward below ankle height. In agricultural settings, grazing the meadow hard now with cattle or sheep until New Year (if it's not too wet) is very beneficial. In a garden setting, cut the grass (and remove clippings) once or twice again before Christmas.

- If your soil is very fertile you might struggle to keep yellow rattle going – it can slowly disappear. Always create meadows on poor, infertile soils.

Part of the joy of creating a wildflower meadow is seeing the gradual changes over time. As yellow rattle establishes, the grass will become thinner and plants like ox eye daisy, knapweeds and vetches will start to appear. Eventually, if you're lucky, even a few orchids might find a home. It's a long journey, but it starts with yellow rattle.

Once you have a meadow with some grass and flowers, the absolute key to maintaining it is through mowing.

The basic yearly pattern is to leave the meadow alone until the first grass cut in late summer, any time from the end of July until mid September. This gives wildflowers the chance to set and shed their seed. The exact timing depends on the year and the weather, but a later cut will help species like knapweed and orchids to spread, while earlier cuts can help control competitive species. Try cutting different areas at different times and see how your wildflowers respond. Cut the grass down hard to a few inches in height but, if you can, it's also good to leave some strips or edges uncut as refuges for insects.

When you cut the grass, it's very important to remove all the cuttings - this helps to keep the soil fertility down. Try strewing the cut grass on other patches of lawn as the wildflower seed they contain can establish new plants; avoid putting cuttings in the compost unless you want wildflowers appearing in every part of the garden! It's best to mow the meadow again a few times until around Christmas, removing the clippings each time. Then leave the meadow alone and enjoy the riot of flowers through spring until the following summer.



MY MEADOW



Evening Primrose, *Oenothera biennis*

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## ***Leave it to Mother Nature? Madeleine Powell from Curlew Country***

Each season I hear the familiar phrase 'leave it to mother nature', well intended in its delivery. I hear it from one or more people not convinced that curlew interventions are necessary. I am always taken aback, unknowing how to respond quickly on the detail of the huge subject of biodiversity that occupies many minds holding conflicting views. Some chicks are better than none, might be a gruff repost, but I can now direct them to the detail of the matter. On a day off I have managed to listen to James Rebanks' recent book *English Pastoral*. As with his first book *The Shepherd's Life*, I cannot recommend it highly enough especially to those interested in the struggle to keep small farms thriving so that our landscapes and the nature within it can also thrive.. Curlew Country works in partnership with farming and land managing partners. They are the people who can deliver the most for curlew recovery and its associated wider environmental benefits in a farmed landscape. Curlew Country has recognised this since it started in 2014. Sheep and beef farms prevalent locally have less scope for flexibility in their businesses, confined by the capacity of soil depth to deliver much else than grass. Many had maintained traditional practices that had lasted for centuries with small adaptations until after World War II. We have been compliant in the demand for cheap food, manipulated by big business in a manner which has produced diminishing returns to the farmer who produces the food we eat. Farming practices which aligned with, if not left it to, 'mother nature' have been abandoned in pursuit of survival of farm livelihoods. As evidence of loss of species and habitat became clear, farmers were often blamed by consumers complicit in the intensification of their farming systems.

Left to nature without human intervention our landscape would look unlike anything we recognise. It would take millennia for the animals missing from our post ice age ecosystems to return without re-introduction, change would truly be slow and incremental. Would humans thrive or desire to exist without intervention? Wilding, the topical method of withdrawing many interventions related to intensive food production, exists as islands within boundaries long established by humans, necessitating management within those un-natural limits. It is welcomed by many, but not by all. In our landscape, people are more usually nostalgic for the less intensively managed land that they remember from their youth, this is inevitably more prevalent in older members of the community who have witnessed more change.

So much of what has been lost is unseen. Our landscape may still look beautiful, but we have become unaware of the fundamental role of our precious resources such as soil, as it is for the most part out of sight. The many small elements that support larger creatures which we can see more readily often go unnoticed. It is not until those larger creatures to which we become attached become vulnerable and start disappearing from our view that we realise that there is a problem.

In Wales modelling suggests that if we leave curlews to Mother Nature they will be lost by 2033. Whilst this modelling has not been similarly undertaken elsewhere, Curlew Country's monitoring and research revealed that without interventions no chicks survived from over 30 nests in 2015 and 2016. We have tested what is needed for natural nest success to recover our curlew population. This is not yet about sustainability, it is about saving yet another species from dying out, in our case Curlews. What is needed – farmer support for crop sacrifice and protection from predation - is not adequately provided for in current agri-environment schemes. Changes for the benefit of vulnerable species though urgently required, if implemented through agri-environment, will not be put in place until 2024 at the earliest.

In this desperate situation for Curlew a more radical intervention has been necessary – headstarting; the taking of eggs from wild nests, incubating them, rearing chicks and returning them to their natural landscape when fully fledged, so that they can also return to breed to save their species.

Our Curlew Cam chicks, born in the wild each year since 2017, have never survived in their natural environment.

This is not a solution to long-term problems, but over 30 chicks or even one being nurtured, released and returning successfully is better than no chicks surviving.

We may have to help nature with appropriate management if we are to continue food production, but perpetually re-introducing species to fail is not a conscionable long-term option.

In the short-term however, it is the option which is keeping our local significant population of Curlews from descent to extinction, and which could be similarly useful to bolster numbers of this species in other places.



**Shropshire**  
Wildlife Trust

## A TALE OF TWO KITTIES

### CHAPTER 8. END OF AN ERA

So here we were living in another desert region. My home was an hour's drive from the dry, barren, mountainous wilderness where the Spaghetti Westerns and parts of The Game of Thrones were filmed. There is still the remnants of the film set and each day actors re-enact a gun fight in the saloon. The cowboys spill out into the dusty street and the villains are chased out of town on horseback, all guns blazing.



Life was busy after I joined groups for art, Zumba, music and alternative healing. I worked in my studio making ceramics, mosaics and painting. I had a lovely creative time. Tom Bombadil and Goldberry enjoyed their freedom and the security of having me around a lot of the time. I worked in a dog rescue charity shop a couple of days a week. Here I made friends with some kind, interesting people. I

personally rescued quite a number of abandonados. Many were hunting dogs who hadn't performed well during the season. Their owners left them in the ramblas to die of starvation and thirst. I could never pass a poor animal who was wandering along the mountain road as I went into town. They were usually frightened and difficult to catch but tempting them with a little food and water often helped. The rescue centres were all too full to accept any more dogs. So I would name them and write a story giving them a personality. I would then send this with a photo to the local ex-pat newspaper. I managed to find lovely caring homes for all the dogs this way. Occasionally it was a bit risky when I had arranged to come back to England and had only a week to find a home. Thankfully the canine angels always came to our rescue. I also fostered a number of dogs for a local rescue group. We always tested them with Goldberry. If she ran upstairs we knew they would not be good with cats. If she stayed on the sofa we knew she felt safe and the dog could be rehomed with cats. Her instincts were always spot on.



Unfortunately after a few years of playing chicken with the local drivers Tom Bombadil ran out of luck. He was killed on the road outside my house. He was buried next to Shaggy in a little grove in a corner of my garden. Goldberry seemed much more relaxed after Tom went. I realised that she had been bullied by him but now she came out of her shell and followed me around. She had always just kept out of the way sleeping on a bed somewhere but she now seemed more adventurous. She would wander around the garden as I watered

my selection of plants and trees. I had lemons, olives, figs and oleander trees. My gardening was trial and error, some plants died but many survived. I had planted a row of fir trees to serve as a wind break. The wind which swept across the reservoir from the mountains was sometimes so fierce it would bend the taller tree almost to the ground. I was constantly replacing the firs as they were always dying from wind burn. The summers were extremely hot and the winters could be freezing. We had snow one year in our village but usually it stopped higher up the mountain. The people from the town below would drive up into the mountains and get their cars covered in snow then race down passed my house to town before the snow disappeared. They would have portholes cleared on their windscreen so they could see out.



I had many wonderful experiences living in Spain. I travelled to the Alhambra in Granada a number of times, it was a two hour drive to get there. I went to Cordoba and Seville and many towns in between. I loved Cadiz. All these great places oozed history and the Spanish were always so friendly. I even travelled from Southern Spain all across Morocco. It was so easy and convenient. But now it was time to return to return to England. Grandchildren were being born and I didn't want to stay so far away.

My great friends Geoff and Sue came to collect Goldberry and myself, in their motor home. First we had an interesting day selling off the remains of my stuff, including my car, at a local car boot. I was grateful they were with me. It felt like we were being attacked on all sides. We could barely get out of the car to arrange the goods for sale. People clambered over each other to get to any new arrivals. We survived and sold everything, including the car!

House sold, legal papers signed and keys given to new owners, we were now on our way. We travelled up through Spain to Bilbao where we visited the magnificent Guggenheim Museum. We then got a night ferry back to UK. Goldberry was very good on the journey but a week after arriving at our new home she sadly died aged almost 18 years. She is buried next to the stream in my garden where I can greet here each morning as I feed the birds.

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Thank you Rosa for your story which many of our readers have found fascinating. At the SDN we are always looking for interesting personal experiences as one off articles or extended serialisations. Please contact the editor if you have an idea.  
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The Haymakers' Song  
by Alfred Austin

Here's to him that grows it,  
Drink, lads, drink!

That lays it in and mows it,  
Clink, jugs, clink!

To him that mows and makes it,  
That scatters it and shakes it,  
That turns, and teds, and rakes it,  
Clink, jugs, clink!

Now here's to him that stacks it,  
Drink, lads, drink!

That thrashes and that tacks it,  
Clink, jugs, clink!

That cuts it out for eating,  
When March-dropp'd lambs are  
bleating,  
And the slate-blue clouds are  
sleeting,

Drink, lads, drink!

And here's to thane and yeoman,  
Drink, lads, drink!

To horseman and to bowman,  
Clink, jugs, clink!

To lofty and to low man,  
Who bears a grudge to no man,  
But flinches from no foeman,  
Drink, lads, drink!

"Someone's stolen the grass from my garden" said the man looking forlorn.

A friend went in to his garden, dug a hole in the grass and filled it with water. I think he meant well.

I used to make loads of money clearing leaves from lawns. I was raking it in.

I heard that burglars used grass to pick a lock and gain entry to a local house, but the evidence may have been planted.

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*A politician was crossing a pasture when he stepped into something soft. He immediately stopped and looked down to see his foot completely covered in a large cow-pie. Standing still, he cried out in terror, "Please someone help me, I'm melting!"*



### Chanterelle Mushrooms *Cantharellus cibarius*

This pretty mushroom, and one of the most popular among foragers, can be found between July and December in the UK. They grow mainly in mossy, coniferous forests or beech forests, and prefer low-lying, damp areas. Chanterelles can be identified by their golden colour and funnel-shaped cap,

### **MSH Electrical Services**

*All types of electrical work*

*PAT Testing, LED Lighting*

*Central Heating Systems*

Free Quotes | 40 years experience

**Mike Hockly**

**Mob: 07961278028**

**Tel: 01743 891610**

**email: hockly342@btinternet.com**

### **Nipstone Campsite**

**The Bog SY5 0NJ**

**Tel: 01743 792073**

**Email: timrm@mail.com**



**Small friendly site for tents,**

**located 200m off the Shropshire Way**

1. Campfires allowed, bring your own wood.
2. No bins on site. Please take your rubbish home.
3. £6 per person per night. Under 4's free.
4. COVID. Sanitiser spray in all facilities
5. Freshly roasted coffee machine on site.

### **T P Hockly**

**Building Contractor**

Timber Framed Buildings & Extensions  
Brickwork and Plastering  
Driveways, General Building Work  
& Building Maintenance  
call Tim on 01743 791114  
Mobile 07814 498 524

**RESPONSIBLE DISPOSAL AND  
REMOVAL OF UNWANTED BEE AND  
WASP NESTS**

Reasonable Rates



Call Tim Hockly 07814 498524



### **Smiths Butchers Minsterley**

**01743 791863**

**Smiths Butchers: Holly House, Minsterley. SY5 0BA.**

**We sell: Local & Exotic Meat, Game, Pies,  
Fruit, Veg, Cakes, Bread, Milk, Cheese, Tinned  
Goods, Cereals, Tea, Coffee, Sugar, Biscuits,  
Crackers, Crisps, Sauces, Jams & Pickles.**

You can find us just over the Bridge in  
Minsterley and opposite the church.

Smiths can be relied on to supply the best  
British bred meats at competitive prices.

We have weekly special offers with a range  
of great value freezer packs.

- and our pies are something special!

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WERLEE**

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Electrical contractors



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Brookside Cottage, Crows Nest Dingle,

Snailbeach, Shropshire, SY5 0LU

### **S & D Garden Services**

**Gardener Handymen**

If you need help with your garden,  
look no further!

**Contact Darrell - 07340 716 311**

**or Steve - 07799 468 898**

Lawn Mowing, Hedge Cutting and  
General Garden Maintenance



## Heather Kidd

Local Shropshire Councillor  
for  
**Chirbury & Worthen**  
including Snailbeach and  
Stiperstones

Telephone: 01938 561 651

Mobile: 07980 635 518

Email:

[heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk)

Facebook: Heather Kidd

[www.heatherkidd.org.uk](http://www.heatherkidd.org.uk)

## ROADS STILL IN A MESS

The good news is there are works scheduled (after a lot of pressure from the parish, myself and others) to repair potholes in our area. The bad news is that Shropshire Council, KIER their contractors and Severn Trent are still not co-ordinating their activities.

Examples include:

- i) The replacement of the pipes by Severn Trent Water along the road from Chirbury to the Marton turning meant that Shropshire Council had to delay repairs to the Stockton Road (i.e. the diversion route!) because nobody from the two organisations had spoken to each other.
- ii) The Council's contractors have been 'top dressing' and painting white lines on the road from Marton to Brockton. This happened haphazardly with no warning and no diversions in place. I have put in a further complaint as the surrounding single track roads were not suitable for the traffic taking them.
- iii) At Lydham Heath a bridge is closed for emergency repairs. Although this was an emergency nobody told the schools which left schools buses running 20 minutes late and parents worried and angry across the Stiperstones area. Again a formal complaint has been made to the Chief Executive this time. The closure was understandable but the lack of communication was appalling.

iv) The Chirbury to Marton road closure will now be covering the turning to Rorrington so the back road to Marton will be closed too. Please remember that if you drive through a road closure your insurance may not be valid if you have an accident.

As always, I will try and get these people to minimize disruption to residents. I will be issuing regular updates on Facebook, my website and my email alerts. If you would like to sign up to the latter drop me a line on [heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:heather.kidd@shropshire.gov.uk)

Best wishes Heather



### **PROPERTY REQUIRED**

We are cash buyers looking for a house to purchase. We are looking for a detached house, preferably with three or more bedrooms and, hopefully, with some land say 0.5 acre or more. We have lived in the Stiperstones/Pennerley area and really love it, but we would consider a broader area, west of the A49. We will also look at properties needing renovation or extension to meet our needs.

If you are thinking of selling, please do contact us. As we've said, we are cash buyers and are prepared to get things moving quickly.

Robert and Grace Davies  
07770 988348 [robertd299@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:robertd299@yahoo.co.uk)

For Sale  
Single Divan Bed - £20  
Ring Joan 01743 791374

The SDN takes a break in August but we are back in September.

Please send us local news, stories, photos etc.

Please don't rely on me to find out what's going on - I am not much of a Facebooker and important news worthy events can often pass me by.

If you are sending images please use a high resolution. 300 dpi is the best.

[sammy@snailbeachdistrictnews.co.uk](mailto:sammy@snailbeachdistrictnews.co.uk)



# PLOUGH GARAGE

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**Servicing & MOTs  
Diagnostics  
Repairs-Tyres  
Air Conditioning**  
Pontesbury SY5 0RJ  
01743 790270  
ploughgarage.co.uk



10 monthly editions per year  
(No January or August edition)  
Per annum.

Tenth page - £25

One fifths page - £35

Two fifths page - £70

Full page - £130

Please contact the editor at  
sammy@snailbeachdistrictnews.co.uk

## VPJ Electrics & Property Services

For all your domestic electrical  
installation and property maintenance

Contact Paul Jones

Tel: 07976 909 434

Email: vpjones40@gmail.com

*"No job too small"*

**Free estimates**

### Birdsfoot Trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*

Beekeepers adore this plant and for good reason. Not only does it have a long flowering season, but the pollen is extremely rich in protein. A vital source of nutrients for baby bees of all species. It is also the larval food plant of the Common Blue, Green Hairstreak and Dingy Skipper butterflies.

All parts of this plant are poisonous to people - but only if you eat them. I'm given to understand that birdsfoot trefoil makes an excellent anti-inflammatory dressing for skin conditions.



**AB  
Window Cleaning**

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Mob. 07983 619325  
E-mail. [adrian.beesty@sky.com](mailto:adrian.beesty@sky.com)

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Domestic and Commercial | Free No Obligation Quotations

### **Carolyn Bailey**

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**Alterations, tailoring, dressmaking  
bridal and evening wear  
soft furnishings  
curtains and cushions altered  
and made to measure**

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Ploxgreen  
Minsterley**

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07784 836599**

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fsb<sup>8</sup>  
MEMBER

07960 960730

07940 577685



01743 792292



Value of proofreading: from  
Malcolm Dunbar

Did I read that sign right?

TOILET OUT OF ORDER. PLEASE  
USE FLOOR BELOW.

AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINES:  
PLEASE REMOVE ALL YOUR  
CLOTHES WHEN THE LIGHT GOES  
OUT.

BARGAIN BASEMENT UPSTAIRS.

WOULD THE PERSON WHO TOOK  
THE STEP LADDER YESTERDAY  
PLEASE BRING IT BACK OR  
FURTHER STEPS WILL BE TAKEN.

AFTER TEA BREAK, STAFF  
SHOULD EMPTY THE TEAPOT AND  
STAND UPSIDE DOWN ON THE  
DRAINING BOARD.

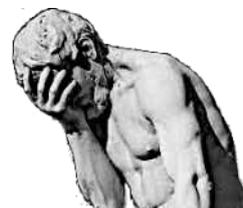
WE EXCHANGE ANYTHING -  
BICYCLES, WASHING MACHINES,  
ETC. WHY NOT BRING YOUR WIFE  
ALONG AND GET A WONDERFUL  
BARGAIN?

FOR ANYONE WHO HAS  
CHILDREN AND DOESN'T KNOW  
IT, THERE IS A DAY CARE ON THE  
1ST FLOOR.

THE FARMER ALLOWS WALKERS  
TO CROSS THE FIELD FOR FREE,  
BUT THE BULL CHARGES.

IF YOU CANNOT READ, THIS  
LEAFLET WILL TELL YOU HOW TO  
GET LESSONS.

WE CAN REPAIR ANYTHING.  
(PLEASE KNOCK HARD ON THE  
DOOR - THE BELL DOESN'T  
WORK.)



# Gardening

## Word Search Puzzle



S P C O M P O S T J V C Q M L V S  
V L L B X Q W T S I U D R A K E U  
E A I I K X W R E G J I Z X M G R  
A N P S I P A O Q A G S O I L E U  
O T P W S E T W S Q P N M E L T F  
U I E K H C E E S M A E W L M A L  
J N R S N G R L B C S O I T Q B O  
C G S R Z U E H G T R T S K Y L W  
D L H E R B S N S R S L A P G E E  
S T O P D B I E A W E E D S A S R  
H W H P X R N B H S E C G N V D S  
O G Z I E I L L O Y D Q L A U A E  
V J K T H E V O E W S H M I A Q W  
E Q A S E A R G L O V E S L Z P F  
L W N H I A Y S D J O E M S N K X  
Z U W G A R D E N H O S E T B V V  
S J N D U M P F U E G G S N I P S



CLIPPERS	RAKE	SUNSHINE
COMPOST	SEEDS	TILLER
FLOWERS	SHEARS	TROWEL
GARDEN HOSE	SHOVEL	VEGETABLES
GLOVES	SNAILS	WATER
HERBS	SNIPS	WATERING CAN
HOE	SOIL	WEEDS
PLANTING	SPADE	WHEELBARROW

Free printable courtesy of PrintFree.net

# Computer Problems?



Friendly local IT support for home and small businesses: South Shropshire area  
We can resolve most issues quickly and conveniently at your location.

Hardware & Software support  
Troubleshooting, repairs & upgrades  
Custom set up of : laptops, PC's & Tablets  
WIFI and cabled network configuration  
Broadband and internet issues  
Malware and Virus removal  
Security software setup  
File rescue / data recovery  
Printer issues  
Backup solutions  
Mobile service to your door  
Remote support

Setting up a PC out of the box can be challenging, it often ends up in confusion resulting in a machine that is a pain to use. The manufacturers don't make it any easier, bombarding the user with multiple choices and unnecessary software.

By enabling easy access to the things that you like and frequently use and by placing the things that you don't need or use out of the way, we can provide you with a system that is secure, simple to operate and customised to your specific needs.



**Contact: Rob**  
**Tel: 01588-650567**  
**Mobile: 07765-240718**  
**Email: [robwestonnet@aol.com](mailto:robwestonnet@aol.com)**

Silene vulgaris - Bladder campion attracts pollinators, other insects, and birds, so it makes the perfect addition to a wildflower garden. Bladder campion is not known for its medicinal qualities but it does have several culinary uses. It is very nutritious, high in omega 3 and packed with antioxidants. When the leaves are young they can be added to salads and eaten raw. Mature leaves tend to be more bitter and should be blanched or steamed, in the same way, other leafy vegetables are cooked and can be added to stir-fries and soups.



Investment Planning  
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Planning  
Intergenerational  
Planning  
Mortgages

It's important you make  
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Mobile: 07967 430 392  
Email: [Neil.Lewis@sjpp.co.uk](mailto:Neil.Lewis@sjpp.co.uk)  
Web: [lewiswealthmanagement.co.uk](http://lewiswealthmanagement.co.uk)

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Your Safer Neighbourhood Team are:

SGT 2382 Damien Kelly

PC 3331 Stuart Coote

PCSO 6160 Shaun Culliss

SC 39516 Amber Jones

Emergency: 999

Non Emergency: 101

Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111

Website: [www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk)

Twitter: @SouthShropCops

Facebook: Bishops Castle Policing Team Rural Watch

Email address: [bccar.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:bccar.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

### CRIME/INCIDENTS TO NOTE REPORTED CHIRBURY, WORTHEN, HOPE, SHELVE & STIPERSTONES

16th May 2021 - 15th June 2021

#### **Burglary**

Large anvil stolen from outbuilding of farmhouse. Would have required at least two persons to carry.

Marton - Occurred overnight 5th - 6th June.

#### **Dog attack on livestock**

2 spaniel type dogs witnessed chasing and biting sheep on back legs. Owner of dogs described as a female in her 40's, wearing a khaki dress,

Bromlow - Occurred 6th June

#### **Malicious communications**

Stiperstones

#### **Harassment**

Stiperstones

#### **Criminal damage**

Bike lock securing a field gate cut through but left at scene, nothing stolen

Bentlwant - Occurred 2nd - 3rd June

#### **Threats to Kill**

Marton - Suspect arrested

#### **Criminal damage**

Vehicle tyre punctured with tacks whilst parked on drive  
Stiperstones - Between 22nd - 23rd May

#### **Public Order Offence**

Worthen Enquires ongoing, suspect identified,

#### **Attempt theft from Vehicle**

Attempts made to remove a catalytic converter from a vehicle parked on drive

Stiperstones - Between 9th - 11th June

### Key Phone Numbers

**NHS Help**

**111**

**Worthen Medical**

**01743 891 401**

**Pontesbury Medical**

**01743 790 325**

**Shropshire Council**

**0345 678 900**

**Care in the Community**

**0121 318 5138**

**Citizen's Advice**

**0344 499 1100**

**Rural Support**

**0300 123 2825**

**Age Concern 01743 233**

**123**

**Samaritans (Free)**

**116 123**

**Western Power**

**(Power Cut) 105**

**Severn Trent (emergency)**

**0800 783 4444**

**British Gas**

**0800 111 999**

**Universal Credit**

**0800 328 5644**

**Child Benefit**

**0300 200 3100**

**Pensions**

**0800 731 0469**

**HMRC Covid 19 support**

**0800 024 1222**

**Care in the Community**

**0121 318 5138**

# Minsterley Motors

Telephone 01743 791208

## 552/553 Shrewsbury to Bishops Castle

### Monday to Friday

Notes (SCH - School Days Only)												SCH			SCH			
BUS STATION, Stand N	07:35	08:10	08:50	10:05	10:25	11:00	12:00	12:30	13:30	14:00	14:35		15:45	16:25	16:25	17:00	17:40	18:10
Cophome Rd, opp Barracks	07:42	08:17	08:57	10:12	10:32	11:07	12:07	12:37	13:37	14:07	14:42		15:52	16:32	16:32	17:07	17:47	18:17
Shrewsbury Hospital			09:02	10:17	10:37		12:12	12:42	13:42	14:12		15:57	16:37		17:12	17:52		
Radbrook Oakfield Rd Jct	07:47	08:22				11:12					14:47				16:37		18:22	
Hanwood, Caradoc View Jct	07:52	08:27	09:07	10:22	10:42	11:17	12:17	12:47	13:47	14:17	14:52	16:02	16:42	16:42	17:17	17:57	18:27	
Hanwood, Cock Inn	07:54	08:29	09:09	10:24	10:44	11:19	12:19	12:49	13:49	14:19	14:54	16:04	16:44	16:44	17:19	17:59	18:29	
Lea Cross, adj Jct	07:57	08:32	09:12	10:27	10:47	11:22	12:22	12:52	13:52	14:22	14:57	16:07	16:47	16:47	17:22	18:02	18:32	
Mary Webb		08:36 SCH										15:20						
Pontesbury, opp Shop	08:03	08:38	09:18	10:33	10:53	11:28	12:28	12:58	13:58	14:28	15:03	15:21	16:13	16:53	16:53	17:28	18:08	18:38
Minsterley, adj crown & soe ptre	08:07	08:42	09:22	10:37	10:57	11:32	12:32	13:02	14:02	14:32	15:07	15:27	16:17	16:57	16:57	17:32	18:12	18:42
Plox Green, Crossroads	08:09			10:39	10:59	11:34	12:34	13:04	14:04	14:34		15:29	16:19	16:59	16:59	18:14	18:44	
Snailbeach, Village Hall					11:01				14:06			15:32	16:21		17:01		18:46	
Stiperstones, adj Pub					11:05				14:10			15:35	16:25		17:05		18:50	
Hope	08:15			10:45			12:40			14:40					17:05		18:20	
Gravels	08:19			10:49			12:44			14:44					17:09		18:24	
White Grit, Jct	08:23			10:53			12:48			14:48					17:13		18:28	
Llan Turn Jct	08:27			10:57			12:52			14:52					17:17		18:32	
Lydham Glebe Meadow Jct	08:31			11:01			12:56			14:56					17:21		18:36	
Bishops Castle Salop Street jct	08:33			11:03			12:58			14:58					17:23		18:38	
Bishops Castle, adj Boars Head	08:35			11:05			13:00			15:00					17:25		18:40	

From 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020

## 552/553 Bishops Castle to Shrewsbury

### Monday to Friday

Notes (SCH - School Days Only)				SCH		SCH												
Bishops Castle, opp Boars Head				07:30			09:40			12:20		13:30			15:40			
Bishops Castle Salop Street Jct				07:32			09:42			12:22		13:32			15:42			
Lydham Glebe Meadow Jct				07:36			09:46			12:26		13:36			15:46			
Llan Turn Jct				07:40			09:50			12:30		13:40			15:50			
White Grit, Jct				07:44			09:54			12:34		13:44			15:54			
Gravels				07:47			09:57			12:37		13:47			15:57			
Hope				07:50			10:00			12:40		13:50			16:00			
Stiperstones, opp Pub	06:50	07:20	07:50		08:23			11:15				14:35			16:50			
Snailbeach, Village Hall	06:54	07:24	07:54		08:27			11:19				14:39			16:54			
Plox Green, Crossroads	06:56	07:26	07:56	07:56	08:30			10:06	11:21	11:55	12:46	13:05	13:56	14:41	16:06	16:53		
Minsterley, opp crown & soe ptre	06:58	07:28	07:58	07:58	08:33	08:50	09:25	10:08	11:23	11:57	12:48	13:07	13:58	14:43	15:10	16:08	16:58	17:35
Pontesbury, Hall Bank	07:03	07:33	08:03	08:03	08:37	08:55	09:30	10:13	11:28	12:02	12:53	13:12	14:03	14:48	15:15	16:13	17:03	17:40
Mary Webb					08:40										15:26 SCH			
Lea Cross, Opp Jct	07:08	07:38	08:08	08:08		09:00	09:35	10:18	11:33	12:07	12:58	13:17	14:08	14:53	15:30	16:18	17:08	17:45
Hanwood, Cock Inn	07:11	07:41	08:11	08:11		09:03	09:38	10:21	11:36	12:10	13:01	13:20	14:11	14:56	15:33	16:21	17:11	17:48
Hanwood, Caradoc View Jct	07:13	07:43	08:13	08:13		09:05	09:40	10:23	11:38	12:12	13:03	13:22	14:13	14:58	15:35	16:23	17:13	17:50
Radbrook Oakfield Rd Jct	07:18		08:18							12:17					15:40			
Shrewsbury Hospital		07:48		08:18		09:10	09:45	10:28	11:43		13:08	13:27	14:18	15:03		16:28	17:18	17:55
Cophome Rd, adj Barracks	07:23	07:53	08:23	08:23		09:15	09:50	10:33	11:48	12:22	13:13	13:32	14:23	15:08	15:45	16:33	17:23	18:00
Bus Station Stand N	07:30	08:00	08:30	08:30		09:22	09:57	10:40	11:55	12:29	13:20	13:39	14:30	15:15	15:52	16:40	17:30	18:07

From 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020





## Saturday

08:00	08:35	10:05	10:45	12:30	13:45	14:45	15:40	17:00	17:40
08:07	08:42	10:12	10:52	12:37	13:52	14:52	15:47	17:07	17:47
08:12	08:47	10:17	10:57	12:42	13:57	14:57	15:52	17:12	17:52
08:17	08:52	10:22	11:02	12:47	14:02	15:02	15:57	17:17	17:57
08:19	08:54	10:24	11:04	12:49	14:04	15:04	15:59	17:19	17:59
08:22	08:57	10:27	11:07	12:52	14:07	15:07	16:02	17:22	18:02
08:28	09:03	10:33	11:13	12:58	14:13	15:13	16:08	17:28	18:08
08:32	09:07	10:37	11:17	13:02	14:17	15:17	16:12	17:32	18:12
08:34	09:09	10:39	11:21	13:04	14:19	15:19	16:16	17:38	18:14
	09:12				14:21			17:40	
	09:15				14:25			17:45	
08:40		10:45				15:25			18:20
08:44		10:49				15:29			18:24
08:48		10:53				15:33			18:28
08:52		10:57				15:37			18:32
08:56		11:01				15:41			18:36
08:58		11:03				15:43			18:38
09:00		11:05				15:45			18:40

## Saturday

	07:30		09:30		12:15			15:50	
	07:32		09:32		12:17			15:52	
	07:36		09:36		12:21			15:56	
	07:40		09:40		12:25			16:00	
	07:44		09:44		12:29			16:04	
	07:47		09:47		12:32			16:07	
	07:50		09:50		12:35			16:10	
07:05		09:20						14:45	
07:09		09:24						14:49	
07:11	07:56	09:26	09:56	11:40	12:41	14:00	14:51	16:16	16:55
07:13	07:58	09:28	09:58	11:42	12:43	14:02	14:53	16:18	16:57
07:18	08:03	09:33	10:03	11:47	12:48	14:07	14:58	16:23	17:02
07:23	08:08	09:38	10:08	11:52	12:53	14:12	15:03	16:28	17:07
07:26	08:11	09:41	10:11	11:55	12:56	14:15	15:06	16:31	17:10
07:28	08:13	09:43	10:13	11:57	12:58	14:17	15:08	16:33	17:12
07:33	08:18	09:48	10:18	12:02	13:03	14:22	15:13	16:38	17:17
07:38	08:23	09:53	10:23	12:07	13:08	14:27	15:18	16:43	17:22
07:45	08:30	10:00	10:30	12:14	13:15	14:34	15:25	16:50	17:29

## 745 Mondays and Fridays only

<b>Pontesbury to Clun 745 A</b>		<b>Ludlow to Clun 745 B</b>	
Pontesbury Shop	08:50	Ludlow Assembly Rooms	13:15
Minsterley	08:55	Craven Arms	13:30
Hope	09:00	Long Meadowend	13:35
Gravels	09:03	Aston on Clun	13:37
White Grit	09:05	Lydbury North	13:50
Lydham	09:10	Little Brampton	14:00
Bishops Castle	09:15	Clunton	14:02
Colebatch	09:20	Clun	14:05
Clun	09:30		
<b>Clun to Ludlow 745 B</b>		<b>Clun to Pontesbury 745 A</b>	
Clun	09:35	Clun	14:10
Clunton	09:38	Colebatch	14:20
Little Brampton	09:40	Bishops Castle	14:25
Lydbury North	09:50	Lydham	14:30
Aston on Clun	10:03	White Grit	14:35
Long Meadowend	10:05	Gravels	14:37
Craven Arms	10:10	Hope	14:40
Ludlow Assembly Rooms	10:25	Minsterley	14:45
		Pontesbury	14:50

Does not run on Bank Holiday except Good Friday

## 775 Tuesdays only

<b>Pontesbury to Bishops Castle 775 A</b>		<b>Newtown to Bishops Castle 775 B</b>	
Pontesbury Shop	09:30	Newtown	13:50
Minsterley	09:35	Kerry	14:00
Plox Green	09:38	Sarn	14:10
Hope	09:40	Blue Bell	14:15
Gravels	09:45	Church Stoke	14:20
White Grit	09:48	Bishops Castle	14:35
Llan Turn	09:51		
Bromleys Mill	09:55		
Lydham	09:57		
Bishops Castle	10:00		
<b>Bishops Castle to Newtown 775 B</b>		<b>Bishops Castle to Pontesbury 775 A</b>	
Bishops Castle	10:05	Bishops Castle	14:40
Church Stoke	10:20	Lydham	14:43
Blue Bell	10:25	Bromleys Mill	14:45
Sarn	10:30	Llan Turn	14:49
Kerry	10:40	White Grit	14:52
Newtown	10:50	Gravels	14:55
		Hope	15:00
		Plox Green	15:02
		Minsterley	15:05
		Pontesbury	15:10

Temporary Post Office  
Stiperstones Inn  
12.15 to 2.15  
Tuesdays only

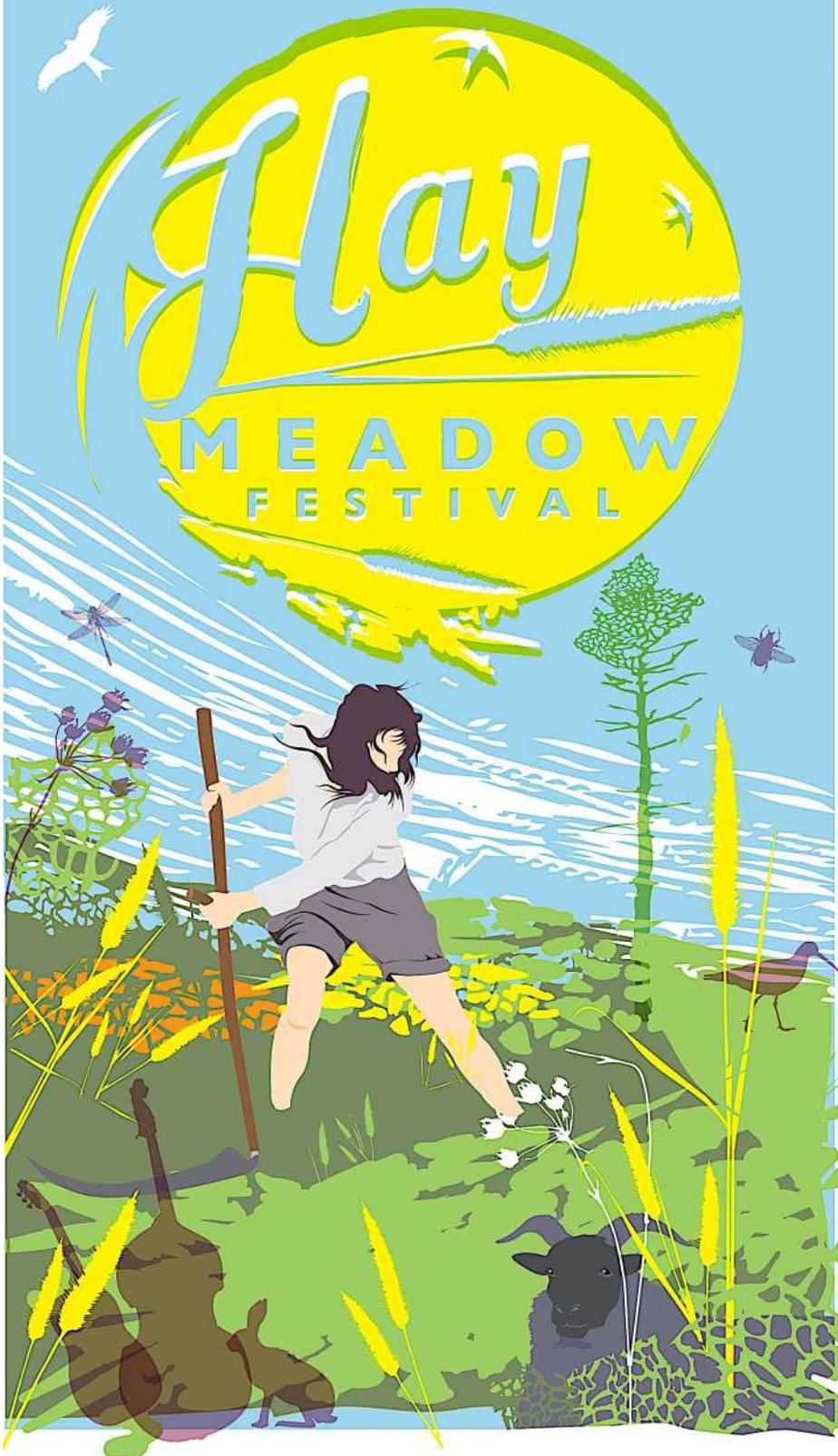


A FUN FILLED FAMILY DAY  
AT THE DISCOVERY CENTRE-CRAVEN ARMS

TO CELEBRATE

WILDFLOWER MEADOWS &  
THEIR WEALTH OF WILDLIFE

THE SHROPSHIRE HILLS



**SAT 24TH  
JULY**

**11AM <sup>TILL</sup> 6PM**

THERE WILL BE:

.....  
SCYTHING  
COMPETITIONS  
/HAVE A GO  
.....

WILDLIFE  
DISCOVERY ACTIVITIES  
.....

RURAL ARTS  
& CRAFTS  
.....

ECO TALK TENT  
.....

MUSIC, MERRIMENT  
& REFRESHMENT  
.....

Tickets available in advance  
from the Discovery Centre.  
Please call: 01588 676060

In advance : £4.00 adults;  
£2.00 Children; £10.00 family

On the day: £5.00 adults;  
£3.00 children; £13.00 family.



Shropshire Hills  
Discovery Centre  
CRAVEN ARMS - SY7 9RS